



FEMA's Operational Concepts and its Impact on the Commonwealth

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National Framework

- What is it?
 - Replaces the National Response Plan
 - A “framework” outlining the key response principles, roles and structures that guide the national response.
 - Not a plan.
 - Provides National View of Incident Management





National Framework

- Key Concepts
 - Engaged Partnerships
 - Tiered Response
 - Scalable, Flexible and Adaptable Operational Capabilities
 - Unity of Efforts Through Unified Command
 - Readiness to Act



What's New?



- Federal Readiness
- Elimination of Incident of National Significance
- Enhanced Missions
 - Special Needs (all ESFs)
 - Companion Animals (ESFs 6, 8, 11)
 - Search and Rescue (ESF 9)



Status of Framework



- Draft
 - Just finished 30-day review period
- <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf>



Federal Players



- Principal Federal Official (PFO)
 - Appointed by Secretary of Homeland Security
 - “Acting on the Secretary’s behalf, the PFO will coordinate the activities of other Federal officials, acting under their own authorities, to ensure consistency of Federal support as well as the overall effectiveness of the Federal incident management.”
- Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO)
 - Appointed by President
 - “The FCO is a senior FEMA official trained, certified and well experienced in emergency management, and specifically appointed to coordinate Federal support in the response to and recovery from emergencies and major disasters.”
- Defense Coordinating Officer (DCO)
 - Appointed by Department of Defense
 - “If requested and approved, the DCO serves as DOD’s single point of contact at the JFO. “



PFO – The Bottom Line

Reprinted from a DHS Presentation given to States
Summer 2007



- PFO does:
 - Work in tight coordination with FCO
 - Act as DHS Secretary's direct representative on scene
 - Assist with political interactions and visits
 - Have a direct line to DHS Secretary to brief issues up
 - Assist with coordinating Federal agency responses



PFO – The Bottom Line

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- PFO does not:
 - Direct operations
 - Have Stafford Act authority
 - Change the way FEMA normally operates
 - Replace FCO
 - Deploy without direct orders from DHS



Questions?